

La Alianza Latina Workgroup Meeting

August 10th @ 6pm

Workgroup Members: Cris Oviedo, Danielle Baron, Gabriel Moreno, Gabriel Terrasa, Sandy Cos, Yvette Oquendo-Berruz, Katie DiSalvo-Thronson, Andrea Nunez

Staff: Trent Hall, Yolanda Sonnier, Megan Williams

Participants: Teresa Colella

Meeting began at 6:10pm

- I. Welcome and General Updates
 - a. Danielle shared that the most important part of the meeting today is regarding plans for Hispanic Heritage month. Is there anything we should tweak or add? We should discuss it here. Should we start with the video or the committee reports?
 - b. Yolanda asked Trent to pull up the video
 - c. Danielle shared that they spoke with Dr. Boston regarding the equity audit, see how residents see the county through an equity lense. When I spoke with her, she was looking for community leaders in the Latinx community. When I spoke with Dr. Oquendo, she also connected her with Sophia. We need to hear from different backgrounds, nationalities, ages.
- II. Video Presentation – Dr. Boston: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=llKXuULB1YQ>
 - a. Community Equity Unit
 - b. Yolanda: surveyed the staff, over 800 participants, employees who were also residents took the survey
 - i. Danielle: how many staff members?
 - ii. Yolanda: around 4000
 - c. Yolanda: please share the flyer and link with your networks, share it more than once because reminders may prompt some additional responses from the community.
 - d. Cris: can we put the video and link to the survey on slack?
 - e. Yolanda: did you send out the video beforehand trent?
 - i. Trent: I didn't want to confuse anyone, can do that now
 - ii. Yolanda: can you send the video and the Spanish flyer?
 - iii. Trent: yes, the flyer also has the QR code. I will put this all on slack.
 - f. Sandy: Cris, I wonder if we can get this on the president update at HCC (chat)
 - i. Cris: Good idea Sandy, I'll ask (chat)
- III. Serology – Teresa Colella
 - a. Presentation on saliva based anti-body test, the impact of COVID on our community, underreporting on deaths but we are focusing on infection rate within our county. People may have been sick but did not have symptoms, but we will be able to see if they were ever sick. Red Cross shared blood donation anti-body testing results and what populations were most impacted. Latino population was underrepresented in this data. Early results though have showed worse impacts on Latino community.
 - b. We need 300-600 latino residents to participate, we only have 18 people so far. We will be attending Spanish masses at 6:30pm, 8am, and 12:15pm – Wilde Lake Interfaith

- i. August 14-15
 - ii. August 21-22
- c. Also seeking volunteer translators – please email Teresa.colella@jhuapl.edu
- d. Danielle: what if you can't make the dates?
 - i. Teresa: I can share the information for the St. John Baptist church at Tamar event, I'm not sure they want it to be public, but I will let you know
- e. Cris: not wanting to share events, how can we get the word out?
 - i. Teresa: if we put this on the HoCo website, we get all white participants, I don't want to turn anyone away but if we can spread by word of mouth
- f. Yvette: we can publish this on social media on the facebook group
- g. Cris: that was what I was trying to understand, is this a privacy thing? Would it make sense to have someone come speak with me in Spanish on my Spanish podcast at HCC about this?
 - i. Teresa: a Spanish show would probably attract Hispanic people, I don't have a Spanish speaker on my team but there are translators at APL that could potentially speak.
 - ii. Cris will reach out
- h. Trent: I have a question that's more of a statement – there are many latinos that may identify as white and afrolatinos – I'd like to talk about this
 - i. Teresa: we are looking into this and are accounting for biracial subjects
- i. Andrea: maybe too late but I'd suggest paying for translators if possible and incentives for participation (chat)
- j. Katie: are there church leaders who are going to be there to explain this?
 - i. Teresa: I have an approved letter that I have to handout, we are working to ensure people have this information. I don't want to misrepresent information and tell them they are disproportionately impacted.
 - ii. Katie: busy community at Spanish mass, it's a busy community.
 - iii. Teresa: speaking with the pastor
- k. Katie: paying for translators?
 - i. Teresa: issue with contracting, we are not allowed though to incentivize participants by law
- l. Andrea: I appreciate your presentation, are there ways around it for other people to provide incentives? Is there a work around?
 - i. Teresa: would have to talk to my colleagues. Perhaps. If you think of something that is not monetary?
 - ii. Andrea: we are seeing a lot of incentives, we appreciate your feedback. We get grants for tons of food, we give that away. I'm happy to follow-up on this.
- m. Cris: if you can get the priest to be the first one to get it done in front of anyone, you'll get a lot more people to do it.
- n. Danielle: father Ferdinand is from Nigeria, large African diaspora
 - i. Teresa: do they go to a specific mass time?
 - ii. Danielle – 4pm on Saturdays, might be wrong
 - iii. Yvette – sometimes does the 8 or 10 o'clock, happening at the same time as Spanish mass

- IV. Meeting Minutes from May
 - a. Gabriel Terrasa moved to approve, Sandy Cos seconded
 - b. Motion carried unanimously
- V. Committee Updates
 - a. Education – Sandy Cos
 - i. We have met with two departments
 - 1. DRP meeting – their department is well intended but is not intentional with their outreach to specific communities. Who is accessing and getting the chance to access them?
 - 2. Early Childcare Workgroup, we want to build a recommendation around that.
 - ii. Scheduling a meeting in September
 - iii. Interested in working with the racial equity group
 - iv. Danielle: that's a great idea, the report is so extensive, if we can pick three and really put the metrics in place.
 - v. Megan:
 - vi. Yolanda: did I hear something about meeting with the racial equity task force
 - 1. Sandy: yes we are
 - 2. Yolanda: they submitted their report to the Council about a week ago, we can share that with different committees. Report is 107 pages
 - vii. Conversation on how long recommendations should be
 - viii. Trent: PTA connections could help
 - ix. Sandy: wondering about data and how do we ensure certain people are being reached
 - 1. Trent: true access, translators
 - x. Katie: big range vs. small range of recommendations – I want to see more than 8 things get done. There are a lot of cross-cutting themes with committees
 - xi. Megan: you can submit as many reports as you want, we really need to get this on paper
 - xii. Danielle: it would be helpful to get this on paper, I agree with Katie, cultural communication is a perfect example of a cross-cutting issue
 - xiii. Sandy: life-span of an individual – evaluating that in the county
 - xiv. Katie: can we bring some of these cross-cutting recommendations to the next meeting? I want to make sure that's happening
 - 1. Danielle – sounds to me like a latino advocate within county government
 - 2. Cris – it needs to be everywhere across the county departments rather than Latino outreach being a second thought. We should consider this recommendation; we don't want to be an after thought
 - 3. Danielle spoke to the importance of intentionality
 - xv. Katie: so did you guys submit a report to the CE?
 - 1. Cris – yes, this was the immediate asks we discussed last meeting
 - 2. Danielle – these were things we discussed

- xvi. Yolanda: reports are typically voted on before reports are submitted to the County Executive unless we want to allow members to act autonomously
 - b. Health – Dr. Yvette Oquendo
 - i. Concern over vaccine rates for Latinos, pleasantly surprised though with the vaccination rate for Latinos. This presentation was in May, tried to get new information. Percentages get lower as the age gets lower, availability came much later though for younger people. 64.1% of all latinos eligible were vaccinated in May
 - ii. Positive information – efforts for the hospital and Chase Brexton to collaborate for prenatal care for undocumented women. There are conversations, hoping this will happen next year. Working to get a meeting together towards the end of this month. May occur towards mid-September
- VI. Hispanic Heritage Month – Trent Hall
 - a. Skeleton of this was created by Andrea, then tried to see what we could utilize from AAPI month. We are about to look at that. We are creating events during the entire month that represent what we are supposed to.
 - i. Shared a document to the screen – will be shared afterwards
 - b. Data does not represent the intersection with Latinos who are also black/ Asian
 - c. This previous event the festival, even with this budget, it was difficult to provide enough resources.
 - d. Presented on potential events and activities
 - i. Latino Museum
 - ii. Documentary viewing
 - iii. Identifying prominent Latino leaders/ historical figures
 - 1. We don't have the budget to do a plaque – it's about \$5,000
 - 2. Katie: Trent - any contact with the Historical Society? (chat)
 - a. Trent: will do that
 - iv. Community Focus Group & Listening Sessions
 - 1. Katie: I find that event really interesting, I think focusing on both input and presenting is significant. I'd love to help with this
 - 2. Trent: both Yolanda and I thought about that, thank you for that affirmation
 - v. Youth Engagement – games that are culturally relevant, worked with the library last year (Nancy Targett). Hope to add on to what we did last year
 - vi. Cultural Celebration and Festival – would be the last thing, the day after the last day of Hispanic heritage month. This festival would be all day, and all these nationalities included should be present. We are also doing the march, a parade on the 19th with flags representative of each country for the kickoff.
 - e. Request to make this a google document that people can add comments and edits to
 - i. Trent can share this
 - f. Cris: should we ask people to contribute by the 15th? Set a deadline?
 - g. Trent: I don't mind having less time to look at the information, we want to make sure we get that feedback from the people we need it from

- h. Yolanda: I think after editing this and sharing it, we should get people to commit to helping and set a deadline for people to provide input. We have a staffing issue, two people won't be able to be there it would only be Trent. If it's going to be the 16th we absolutely need workgroup members to participate.
- i. Trent: I stated on the agenda I was hoping we could confirm some things and have tasks assigned. I genuinely need your help to ensure we are honoring you all, but I need your support to make this happen.
- j. Sandy: HCC will be confirming something for October 5th, presenter who runs Latina Rebels <https://www.priscadorcas.com/bookme/>
 - i. Trent to connect with Sandy
- k. Trent: We are the planning committee, I'm running point on it in our office. We have other partners but I want to make sure La Alianza is included.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm